

Gzhiijwang Ziibi Dabaadjimowin

Government news you can use

Gdinimikaago ... Mino Enuhkummegud

# Rapid River News!

October 27, 2008

From L.R.B.O.I.



*(The following information comes from a weekly update supplied concerning the tribal government, local communities and issues that affect overall tribal business. The department or persons involved is shown at the end of each item. If the item is general in nature, PA will appear for Public Affairs)*

(Natural Resource related items)

- **Energy Savings.** The Grants Department has identified a website that offers tips (and links) to help you fight the high costs of energy this winter. Go to: [http://www.energysavers.gov/financial\\_assistance.html](http://www.energysavers.gov/financial_assistance.html).

(Emergency Management)

- **AED/s in Government Buildings.** The Tribal Emergency Planning Committee has arranged for the purchase and installation of AED's in some of the government buildings. The AED's are used when someone is having a heart attack. They are now installed in the Bank Building, Justice Center and Community Center. As funding becomes available the other government facilities will receive them.

(General area items)

- **Pokagon Tribe and State reach agreement.** It was announced on the 20<sup>th</sup> that the tribe and state finally came to an agreement on their long-standing battle over the establishment of a casino south of Grand Rapids. The agreement also will allow the tribe to pursue building two satellite casinos, one in Van Buren County and one in Cass County. See the December *Currents* for more details.

(Tribal Government-Department items)

- **Health Department on the Air.** Native America Calling, a radio program broadcast nationally on Public Radio had Director Jessica Burger as a guest on their talk program regarding breast cancer (October is Breast Cancer Awareness month) in Native Americans (rates in Bemidji Area, etc.) speaking in general terms about diagnosis, treatment, etc., as the NIBH representative for Bemidji Area from Little River Band Ottawa in Manistee, MI. Dr. Dixon was on the program as well as not only a Native American physician, but also a breast cancer survivor herself.
- **Whistle Blower Protection Act. To All Employees of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Little River Casino Resort, Muschigon Construction Company and Little River Trading Post.** On October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Tribal council adopted, on an emergency basis, revisions to the Fair Employment Practices Code. The adopted revisions include a new Article XII, "**Whistle Blower Protection.**" Under Article XII, an employee of any Tribal entity may report violations of the law either to his/her employer or directly to the Prosecutor. The Whistle Blower Protection Act protects employees who have reported violations from any form of discrimination in the work place. Please take a moment to review this new, important part of the Fair Employment Practices Code. It is posted both for public comment and under the "Ordinances" section of the Tribal Council website.

(compiled by Office of Public Affairs)

If you have any specific questions, ideas or comments regarding this information, please address them to:

The Public Information Office, LRBOI, 375 River Street, Manistee, MI. 49660. 231-398-6840.

Or send them direct to [currentscomments@lrboi.com](mailto:currentscomments@lrboi.com).

Your comments will be forwarded to the right person at the tribal government within 24 hours.